not by the Government of India? That is the demand. We do not need a CBI inquiry into this. Blacklist the company.

SHRISHARAD PAWAR: After investigation, if it is proved then action will definitely be taken against the company.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Shri Ekanath Thakur.

SHRI EKANATH K. THAKUR: Sir, I wanted to put the same question. Thank you.

### Increasing the productivity of cereals

*424. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA:†
       SHRI KALRAJ MISHRA:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the plan of Government to increase the productivity of cereals, particularly wheat and rice; and

(b) whether Government have any plan to bring productivity to the international level for these cereals?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHARAD PAWAR): (a) and (b) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

#### *Statement*

(a) and (b) The National productivity of wheat is 2.62 tonnes per ha (2005-06) which is almost at par with World's average productivity of 2.66 tonnes ha (Food and Agriculture Organization, 2003). The productivity of rice in terms of paddy is 3.18 tonnes per ha (2005-06) against the World's average of 4.02 tonnes per ha (Food and Agriculture Organization, 2005).

Integrated Cereal Development Programme (ICDP)-Rice/Wheat/ Coarse Cereals) is in operation in different States and Union Territories of the country under Macro Management programme for increasing the production of cereal crops. Under this programme regionally differentiated strategy based on the resource endowments in differenlagro-climatic regions are adopted by the States to promote high yielding varieties and hybrids, resource conservation tehnologies like zero tillage and furrow irrigated raised bed system, Integrated Nutrient Management and

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†*The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Santosh Bagrodia.

Integrated Pest Management to enhance the productivity of rice and wheat. Besides, for promotion of maize, Integrated Scheme on Oilseeds, Pulses, Oilpalm and Maize (ISOPOM) is in operation in major growing States of the country.

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Sir, since the time is limited, I would quickly put a question to him. The hon. Minister has mentioned that the wheat production in India is 2.62 tonnes per hectare in comparison to the world's average of 2.66 tonnes. Similarly, paddy is 3.18 tonnes per hectare against the world's average of 4.02.1 would like to inform the hon Minister, through you, Sir, that China has got 100 million hectares; their total production is 400 million tonnes of grains. India has got only 146 million hectares and we have got only 108 million tonne grains. But, as far as rice is concerned, whatever figures he has given, North Korea has got 5435 metric tonnes; for wheat, Netherlands has 7716 kgs. per hectare and potato 15817 kgs. Belgium is...

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Bagrodia, will you give some time for his reply?

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Why do I want to say this is, please do not compare with the world's average. Compare with the best. When can India claim that we are the best in the world for productivity?

श्री शरद पवार: इसमें सुधार करने की तो आवश्यकता है, स्कोप भी है, मगर यह भी नजर अंदाज नहीं कर सकते कि जो प्रॉडक्शन का वर्ल्ड ऐवरेज यहां दिया है, वह टोटल प्राडक्शन एंड टोटल एरिया है, उसमेम 40 प्रतिशत irrigated है, 60, per cent non-irrigated है। 11 This is always dependent on erratic monsoon; it is rain-fed. इसलिए rain-fed का हमारा उत्पादन कम है और जब यह calculation करते हैं तो irrgated और non-irrigated दोनों का average करके करते हैं, इसलिए हमारा आंकड़ा कम दिखाई देता है। मगर, यह बात सच है कि चाइना ने कोई नई जो वैराइटी डेवलप की है, इससे उनका उत्पादन बढ़ा है। अपने देश के किसानों ने इसमें कोई काम नहीं किया ऐसी, स्थिति नहीं है। 1950 के आसपास देश की टोटल प्रॉडक्शन 20 मीलियन टन था, जो अभी 91.97 मिलियन टन तक पहुंचा है। तो इसमें सुधार हुआ है, मगर और भी काम करने का स्कोप यहां है।

SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Israel have turned desert into arid land India can also take the help of Israel. Similarly, with the kind of experiments and tfte agricultural research that is going on, when can India have the best seeds available? Otherwise, crores of rupees are spent and the result is zero.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Recently, the Government of India has taken a decision to set a Rain-fed Authority which is supposed to look after rain-fed area, and a number of programmes will be implemented through that particular authority. Secondly, the ICAR's total concentration is to develop a new drought resistant variety which can be definitely used in non-irrigated areas. If we get some breakthrough in this, definitely we can move forward.

SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I thank you very much for the opportunity given to me to speak. Sir, we are-talking about the import of cereals. We were in a position to export cereals from India to other countries. What are the measures that we are taking for the development of agriculture and farmers? Nowadays, we are importing all these things from foreign countries? What are the steps being taken by the Government to improve the condition of agriculture in the country?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That is all right. Let him reply.

SHRI SHARAD PAWAR: Sir, it is already given in reply as to what type of action has been taken and what types of schemes have been introduced. There are a number of schemes which have been implemented and we are spending a substantial amount of resources through the State Governments. Money has been released to the State Governments to take appropriate action. But we should not forget one thing that day by day the demand in the country is much more than, what it was there some three or four years back. And 9.5 per cent growth rate, circulation of money, the changing food habits and population pressure are definitely creating problems. There is a mismatch between the production and demand and that is why we have to remove that gap.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question Hour is over

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## WRITTEN ANSWERS TO STARRED QUESTIONS

### Bridges awaiting rehabilitation

*425. SHRI B.J. PANDA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that around 76000 old railway bridges are awaiting rehabilitation: